

KaroEcho Executive Board Meeting Aug 7, 2019 at the Kensington Pub

Meeting was called to order at 1715 hours

Present, Hal, KK6NDF

Larry, KK6GIO

Howdy, KE6BEE

Don, NI6A

Announcements:

Hal gave a brief summary of the Berkeley Fire Evacuation Drill on Saturday Aug 3. No radio comms are anticipated.

The CERT email survey/questionnaire supposedly sent to all CERT graduates was discussed. Hal was tasked to obtain a summary of the survey that may be relevant to radio comms and/or KaroEcho.

Howdy addressed the status of the Park Clubhouse antenna outdoor patch cord on the external wall at Harding and Tassajara Parks. Don recommended sending Chris Jones a written request and copy Chief Janes in the hope that this project could move ahead. Don wanted to add GMRS antennas in the request.

GO-KART

Don suggested making go-karts out of the three Kenwood radios that have are now being stored at KE6BEE.

We discussed the ideal location of the go-karts. A central accessible safe location. Away from trees, not on a narrow street, and with an outdoor outlet for the float charger. Other ideas was storage in a lockable construction storage box, an outdoor electronics, a portable rain proof shed, or someone's garage, a school campus,

The GO-KART costs approximately \$500 without counting the radios (Coax, battery, Cart, radios, antennas, mast/tripod, usb port, cigarette lighter port, Anderson power pole ports, voltmeter, on/off switch, float charger, solar panel, fuses, adapters, lock box, lock. This can be a funding target.

We can also project using antennas for all 6 EC clubhouses, coax, outdoor patch boxes, gmrs radios, combo locks, Knox boxes, an antenna analyzer, etc.

Funding Sources

Service clubs, businesses, schools, trusts, church groups, neighborhood fund raising picnic, grants, etc. We need a team to make first contact such as writing letters, do presentations at

meetings, and/or visit the business, clubs, organizations, etc.

Outreach

We decided to go ahead with the Fire Department's kind offer to do a mass mailing to all hams in El Cerrito and Kensington.

Need someone to do a presentation to the Boy Scouts

We need some follow-up to contact the newly licensed 2 plus hams per month in EC/K.

Don, suggested that we do not really need new members, but rather trained radio operators in our area. He suggested getting the experienced hams who have lost interest in KaroEcho but are still active in ham radio. Don asserted that one experienced ham is better than 5 new hams who have no experience or interest in learning radio.

Don agreed to write the letter to be sent to all the hams in EC/Ken based on the 2009 letter, and send it to the board, Chief Janes, and allow feedback from the general membership give input.

Edward, KM6UBY and Rob, K6RJM can cull an updated mailing list from the FCC site for the Fire Department. The mailing will involve three ways to reply: email, by letter addressed to the karoecho address, or to the website "JOIN" page HYPERLINK "https://www.karoecho.net/join" <https://www.karoecho.net/join>

A follow-up mailing to new hams as they become licensed should be an action item for the outreach committee.

Maintenance Crew

We need an active crew to do battery maintenance and radio checks at FS 65, 72, 71, the EOC, and other locations. Each site should have a KaroEcho station manual and a radio instruction manual, ICS-213 forms, ICS-309, KaroEcho message form, etc.

Training

Don will work with Howdy to make up a list of Thursday night net training exercises

Don will work with Howdy to develop general club meeting training exercises.

Don can write a Communications Plan for CERT, but who in CERT will approve or agree to it? Will it be implemented?

Don brought up that CERT has no disaster plan to attach a disaster communications plan to.

Don brought up that there is no MOU between KaroEcho and the FD. There is no MOU between KaroEcho and CERT. So what is their expectations? These are loose ends that need to be sewn.

Don will write up the minutes and put them on the website.

The Aug 17 CoCo Cty RACES drill was discussed. Don volunteered to make up some dummy messages in IC-213 format. Will there be a use of ham radio during a fire evacuation? Not likely.

Radio Use in Fire Evacuations

There are three phases of evacuation

- 1) Pre-evacuation alert stage for possible evacuations -- (CWS Nixle, Red Flag, etc)
 - 2) The Evacuation itself
 - 3) The post evacuation at evacuation centers and shelters
- GMRS and Hams have a role to play in stage 3.(post evacuation) to help connect dislocated family members and send out health and welfare traffic

CERT has a role in phase 1 to help alert those without cell phones and the elderly be alerted and prepared.